

Goals and Objective Meeting  
April 15th, 2019

**SLHA Recommendation for Beautification of LBK  
North End of GMD**

SLHA is requesting trees and shrubbery, such as Geiger Trees, Green Island fig and dwarfed pitch apple plants, to be planted on the North End of GMD from Lyons Lane heading north to the Longboat Pass Bridge.

It would enhance the beautification of the island when tourists and residents cross the Longboat Pass Bridge entering Longboat Key from the North End.

Suggestion for Agenda for 2019 Goals and Objectives Meeting re: LBK VISION PLAN

Our suggestion focuses on two goals in The Town of Longboat Key 2011 Vision Plan: **Maintain the high level of public services and safety and Minimize regular and seasonal traffic congestion.**

Prioritize and advocate for the immediate completion of the center turn lane on Gulf of Mexico Drive, especially the less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile section between Spinnaker Lane and Channel Lane, to ensure the safety of the residents and give access to emergency vehicles. This must be done before further analyses of the effects on traffic of the proposed roundabouts.

There are 435 homes that are impacted by the lack of a center lane on the  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile section of GMD near the south end of the key. The 139 residences on the nine streets comprising Country Club Shores Units 1-3 and 39 apartments in Bay Harbour at 448-450 GMD have no center turn lane. An additional 257 homes in CCS Units 4 and 5 have to go out their north gate in order to access a short center lane. We have extreme difficulty accessing Gulf of Mexico Drive southbound especially during tourist season that lasts three to four months. One has to wait for a gap in both northbound and southbound traffic. If there were a center-turn lane, a car could enter the center lane and then wait for a gap in the southbound traffic. We have difficulty returning home from the north as well as traffic pools behind us. This is a problem unique to those of us who live on the south end because the businesses and doctors that we use are in Sarasota more than Bradenton, necessitating frequent access to southbound GMD. In addition, traffic on this section of GMD is the first and foremost to back up, long before the congestion affects more northerly communities. We are especially concerned because the proposed roundabout at Longboat Club Road and GMD is billed as "increasing traffic flow", decreasing the gaps in traffic that we need.

In addition to increasing the safety of us who live in Country Club Shores, the expedited construction of this short section of center turn lane would dramatically increase the safety for anyone requiring emergency services on the south end. Presently, emergency vehicles frequently are stopped on GMD at Spinnaker Lane because traffic will not pull over for them. In response, their air horns blast long and loudly. Prioritizing the creation of a center turn lane on this section of GMD would allow these vehicles direct access to emergencies from Town Hall all the way over the New Pass Bridge. We would like to have the town petition FDOT to begin the construction of this short section of GMD as soon as possible. We understand that the current construction schedule is almost two years away. There must be some way to complete this section sooner so we and emergency-response teams don't have to go through not only the remainder of this tourist season but also two more seasons.

In summary, prioritizing the completion of a center lane on GMD would help minimize traffic year round for all residents as well as improve and maintain our safety.

Country Club Shores HOAs

Units 1 and 2 Kathy Callahan, president

Unit 3 Lynn Cook, president

Unit 4 Lynn Larson, president

Unit 5 Marlis Carter, president

# LBK North

To: Town Commission

Submitted by: LBK North Board

RE: April 15, 2019 Goals & Objectives Meeting

LBK North is a network of property owners on the north end of Longboat Key comprised of representatives from 20 home owner associations, condominium associations and neighborhood associations, representing approximately 800 residents from District 5 and 4.

We respectfully request your consideration of the following 3 recommendations for the Town Commission goals and objectives.

1. Shoreline Management & Protection Strategy (including Inlets, Beaches, Canals, Bay)
  - a. Strategic Planning - Given that sea level rise and beach erosion are realities, shoreline protection should be the #1 strategic issue that LBK must anticipate and address. We advocate for a long-term Comprehensive Strategic Shoreline Plan, that includes assessments of all shorelines (beach, bay, inlets and canals), with long term and tactical recommendations, including metrics to trigger action and funding as outlined in the March 2017 LBK North Advocacy Statement (attached).
  - b. North End Beach Stabilization: We ask that the Town do all in its power to accelerate the installation of the 5 rock groins on the North end beaches to stabilize and protect the quickly eroding beach and surrounding neighborhoods and to prevent the movement of re-nourished beach sand to the east end of Greer and into the bay and canals.
  - c. Canals - We request that the Town establish an ongoing program to maintain our canal system (e.g. dredge to the maximum allowable depths and widths and trim overgrown foliage) in a sustained fashion to maximize property values (much like we do our roads). We request that Canal 1A dredging not be delayed, as to protect water flow to the Greer Island cove and dock access for the neighborhood.
  - d. Neighborhood Flooding - We encourage the Town to expedite the trial, purchase and installation of effective equipment (i.e. one-way valves) to mitigate nuisance flooding in residential neighborhoods.

## 2. Broadway & GMD Intersection

This intersection requires improvements in pedestrian safety, traffic safety (e.g., dangerous left turns, high speeds, lower visibility) and beautification. With smart planning and investment this intersection can serve as both a functional and attractive north end entry to Longboat Key.

We request that the Town and/or the State/MPO, fund the Broadway roundabout and begin the next phase of design planning in conjunction with the adjoining neighborhood.

We also encourage the Town to work with potential owners of bordering commercial property (i.e. gas station) to insure development at these sites are compatible with the beautification, safety and functional goals for this important intersection.

## 3. Manatee County

We ask that the Town continue to engage Manatee County in substantive discussions regarding the funding and support of initiatives that directly impact the Manatee residents of LBK (e.g. North end groin project, traffic, canal dredging, Broadway roundabout, historic preservation).

Thank you for your service to our Town and thank you for the opportunity to share our priorities with you in this forum.

**TO: Longboat Key Commission**

**FROM: START (Solutions To Avoid Red Tide)**

**DATE: April 4, 2019**

**RE: Town Goal 6: Protect and conserve the natural environment and maintain the beauty of the Key**

START is announcing the availability of the Mini Reef, an exciting new natural water filtration system that fits under docks and filters 30,000 gallons of seawater every day.

Built by Ocean Habitats, Inc. the Mini Reef will be introduced on Longboat Key at the Mar Vista Restaurant in May.

Mini Reefs:

1. Improve water quality in a 12 to 15 foot radius around the dock
2. House water filtering sea life like shrimp, sea quirts, oysters and crabs
3. Attract a fish population that feeds off the Mini Reef
4. Improve dissolved oxygen in the water by over 30%
5. Reduce phosphorus in the water column by 25 % to 40%
6. Durable construction- lasts at least ten years
7. Virtually no maintenance
8. Approved by the Florida DEP, over 2,000 installed in Florida
9. Affordable, \$225 per unit with a 10% START discount
10. Tax Deductible (50%)

Mini Reefs can be ordered at [OceanHabitats.com](http://OceanHabitats.com) with START 10 (All caps) designation

The Commission will be invited to the May Mini Reef Installation when a date is set in May.

Thank You: Sandy Gilbert, START

## **REQUEST TO SPEAK AT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES MEETING**

Longboat Key Estates requests representatives Mr. Al Bru and Mr. Ed Principe to speak to the commissioners at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Goals and Objectives meeting.

They will speak about the fence along the south side of Bayfront Park; It's dilapidated condition; A need for an extension to close a 40 foot gap allowing public access to our subdivision and Jessmyth road; and to address the rotten wooden seawall along the canal which is allowing our road, Jessmyth, to erode in several places. They would like to extend an invitation to commissioners and/or Public Works employees to view the fence from our subdivision.

They will also address the dredging of the canals in Longboat Key estates where city drain pipes empty into the canal.

**End of Agenda Item**